

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 1, line 21 and ending at page 2, line 7 to read, as follows.

--~~In Over~~ the recent years, in terms of a low voltage process, a low ozone generation quantity and a lost cost, a mainstream system is a contact charging system in terms of a low voltage process, a low ozone generation quantity and a low cost, in which a charging member such as a roller type charging member, a blade type charging member, etc. is brought into contact with the surface of the image bearing member, and the surface of the image bearing member is charged by applying a voltage to the charging member. In particular, the roller type charging member is capable of performing stable charging over a long period of time (Japanese Examined Patent Publication ~~Application Laid-Open~~ No. 3-52058).--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 3, line 11 and ending at page 3, line 18 to read, as follows.

--According to the AC charging system, however, as compared with the DC charging system, a discharge quantity to the image bearing member increases, and hence there might be a case where deterioration of the image bearing member such as a chip-off, etc. is accelerated, and there appears an abnormal image such as an image flow due to a discharging product in a high-temperature, ~~[[high-temperature]]~~ high-humidity environment.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 13 and ending at page 10, line 22 to read, as follows.

--Reference numeral 1 represents a rotary drum type electrophotographic photosensitive member (which will hereinafter be referred to as a photosensitive drum) as an image bearing member. This photosensitive drum 1 is an organic photoconductive ~~photo-conductive~~ (OPC) drum exhibiting a negative charging property. The photosensitive drum 1 is 50 mm in major diameter and is rotationally driven counterclockwise as indicated by an arrowhead about a central spindle at a process speed (circumferential speed) of 10 mm/sec.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 12, line 12 and ending at page 12, line 17 to read, as follows.

--Core metal bar 2a is a stainless rod having a diameter of 6 mm, the lower layer 2b is foamed EPDM (ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymer) with carbon dispersed, of which specific gravity is 0.5g/cm^3 , volume resistance value is $10^3 \Omega\text{cm}$, layer thickness is 3.0 mm, and length is 320 mm. ~~mm~~--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 15, line 20 and ending at page 16, line 16 to read, as follows.

--The developing sleeve 4b is disposed opposite to and in close proximity to the photosensitive drum 1 in a way that keeps a closest distance (which is referred to as S-D gap) of $350 \mu\text{m}$ between the sleeve 4b and the photosensitive drum 1. A portion in the developing sleeve 4a, which faces the photosensitive drum 1, is a developing portion "c".

The developing sleeve 4b is rotationally driven at the developing portion “c” in a direction reversed ~~reversal~~ to an advancing (rotating) direction of the photosensitive drum 1. A part of the two-component developer 4e in the developing container 4a is adsorptively held as a magnetic brush layer onto the outer peripheral surface of this developing sleeve 4b by a magnetic force of the magnet roller 4c in the developing sleeve, rotationally carried as the developing sleeve rotates, then tiered neatly as a predetermined thin layer by the developer coating blade 4d, subsequently brought into contact with the surface of the photosensitive drum 1 at the developing portion “c”, and properly causes a friction with the surface of the photosensitive drum 1. A predetermined developing bias is applied to the developing sleeve 4b from a power source S2.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 26, line 15 and ending at page 26, line 23 to read, as follows.

--In the case of performing the charge under the control at the fixed voltage or the fixed current, this discharge current quantity changes depending on the environment and on how much the durability is progressed. This is because there is a fluctuation in ~~fluctuates~~ a relationship between the peak-to-peak voltage and the discharge current quantity and a relationship between the AC current value and the discharge current quantity.--

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 19 remain pending in the application. Claim 1 is the only independent claim.

The specification has been amended to place such in better form. In so doing, Japanese Patent Document No. 3-52058, which is discussed at page 1 of the specification is more accurately identified. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the application are earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our New York office at the address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,



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